
DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

HALESOWEN AREA COMMITTEE – 24th JANUARY 2008

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT

Fish 4 Dogs, Saltbrook Industrial Estate, Cradley.

Purpose of Report

- 1 To update committee on the operation of the pet food manufacturing process called “Fish 4 Dogs” located in Cradley, which has been the subject of numerous questions raised at Halesowen Area Committee in the past.

Background

Fish 4 Dogs Ltd

- 2 Fish 4 Dogs started operating from their present location in the summer of 2005 without a permit to do so. They quickly applied to Dudley Council for such a permit. The permit application was considered over a prolonged period and a permit was eventually issued in July 2007. During the determination period the operator made several improvements to the air filtration plant in an attempt to reduce odour emissions from the oven exhaust, the last improvement being a much larger carbon absorption plant installed in 2007. As the succession of improved odour abatement plants have been installed the number of odour complaints received by Dudley MBC have reduced. The current plant has an odour efficiency of approximately 97%. Since the issue of the permit, no evidence of an offensive odour over the installation boundary has been witnessed by an authorised officer from Dudley MBC and no formal action has been necessary.
- 3 With respect to noise, there has been a sporadic issue with noise from the external refrigerated storage unit. Although this only affects a few of the properties sited closest to the Fish 4 Dogs premises, Dudley Council served a noise abatement notice in August 2005 on the operator instructing the operator to control the noise emission. This has generally been complied with and there have only been a handful of noise incidents since the abatement notice was served.
- 4 On the 12th December 2007 the management of Fish 4 Dogs formally informed Dudley Council that they had ceased the fish cooking process at the units located on Saltbrook Industrial Estate, Cradley. The units will only be used for the packaging of the finished product, which is cooked at a location outside of Dudley Borough. This should have the effect of minimising any odour

emissions from the site. Officers from Dudley Council will now consider the relevance of the permit and vary or revoke the permit as is necessary in accordance with current legislation and statutory guidance.

Finance

- 5 Income to Dudley Council will be reduced if the permit is revoked, there are no other financial implications for Dudley Council arising from this report.

Law

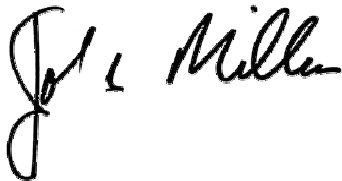
- 6 Fish 4 Dogs Ltd operate a Part B Installation which is prescribed under the provisions of Section 6.8 – The treatment of animal and vegetable matter and food industries, Part B, Schedule 1 of the Pollution Prevention and Control (England and Wales) Regulations 2000. The relevance of the existing permit will be reviewed now that the cooking process has ceased and the appropriate action taken in accordance with current legislation and statutory guidance.

Equality Impact

- 7 The content of this report complies with the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy. There are no specific issues affecting children and young people.

Recommendation

- 8 That Committee consider the information provided in this report.



.....
J. B. MILLAR – DIRECTOR OF THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT

Contact Officer: Tim Glews
Telephone Ext 4606
E. Mail address tim.glews@dudley.gov.uk

List of Background Papers

Fish 4 Dogs Ltd

- The Pollution Prevention and Control Act 1999
- The Pollution Prevention and Control (England and Wales) Regulations 2000
- The Secretary of States Guidance for Pet Food Manufacturing Involving the Processing of Raw Animal Material; Note 6/24a (05)